

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00572 200051Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/078 W

-----051238 200736Z /11

R 190802Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9281
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
USMISSION PEKING
CINCPAC
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0572

BANGKOK PLEASE PASS UDORN ELECTRICALLY

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, LA, UR, MILI
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF RUSSIANS KILLED IN LAOS

REF: BANGKOK 14096

1. A WESTERN DIPLOMAT HAS TOLD US THAT HE ASKED SOVIET
AMBASSADOR PODOLSKI MAY 18 ABOUT THE BANGKOK WORLD STORY
OF 14 SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS BEING KILLED MAY 16 IN AN
AMBUSH 19 KILOMETERS FROM VIENTIANE. PODOLSKI REPORTEDLY
REPLIED, "LIES, ALL LIES," AND COMMENTED THAT THE
"CAPILIST PRESS" OFTEN PRINTED "NONSENSE" ABOUT THE NUMBER
OF SOVIET PERSONNEL IN LAOS AND ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 00572 200051Z

2. PODOLSKI TOLD OUR SOURCE THAT THE ONLY THING THE
CAPITALIST PRESS HAD GOTTEN RIGHT ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITY
IN LAOS IN RECENT MONTHS HAD BEEN THE REPORT OF A MIG-21
CRASH EARLIER THIS YEAR. (ON MARCH 2 THE SOVIET MILITARY
ATTACHE ALSO CONFIRMED THIS INCIDENT AS REPORTED IN
VIENTIANE 289.)

3. EMBASSY BANGKOK (REFTEL) IS QUITE RIGHT IN POINTING OUT THAT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE MEKONG RIVER AND KILOMETER 19 ON THE VIENTIANE-PAK SANE HIGHWAY MAKES THE REPORT AS CARRIED IN THE WORLD HIGHLY UNLIKELY. THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, THAT THE INCIDENT COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE AT KILOMETER 19 ON THE VIENTIANE-THA DEUA ROAD (WHICH EVENTUALLY JOINS THE PAK SANE HIGHWAY). THIS SPOT WOULD BE QUITE CLOSE TO THE MEKONG. IN AN EFFORT TO CHECK OUT THIS POSSIBILITY, WE HAVE ASKED VARIOUS LOCAL SOURCES WHO USE THE THA DEUA ROAD IF THEY HAD NOTICE ANYTHING IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS. ALL RESPONSES SO FAR HAVE BEEN NEGATIVE.

4. OUR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WILL BE GOING TO THA DEUA THIS MORNING (MAY 19) WITH AN EMBASSY TRUCK ON HIS WAY TO BANGKOK. WE HAVE ASKED HIM TO MAKE A MENTAL NOTE OF ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY BETWEEN KILOMETERS 18 AND 20 ON THE THA DEUA ROAD AND TO REPORT HIS FINDINGS TO EMBASSY BANGKOK ON HIS ARRIVAL.
ROBERTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, CASUALTIES, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978VIENTI00572
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780212-0835
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780538/aaaabgfy.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6b74179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 BANGKOK 14096
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2630792
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTS OF RUSSIANS KILLED IN LAOS
TAGS: PINS, MILI, LA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6b74179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014